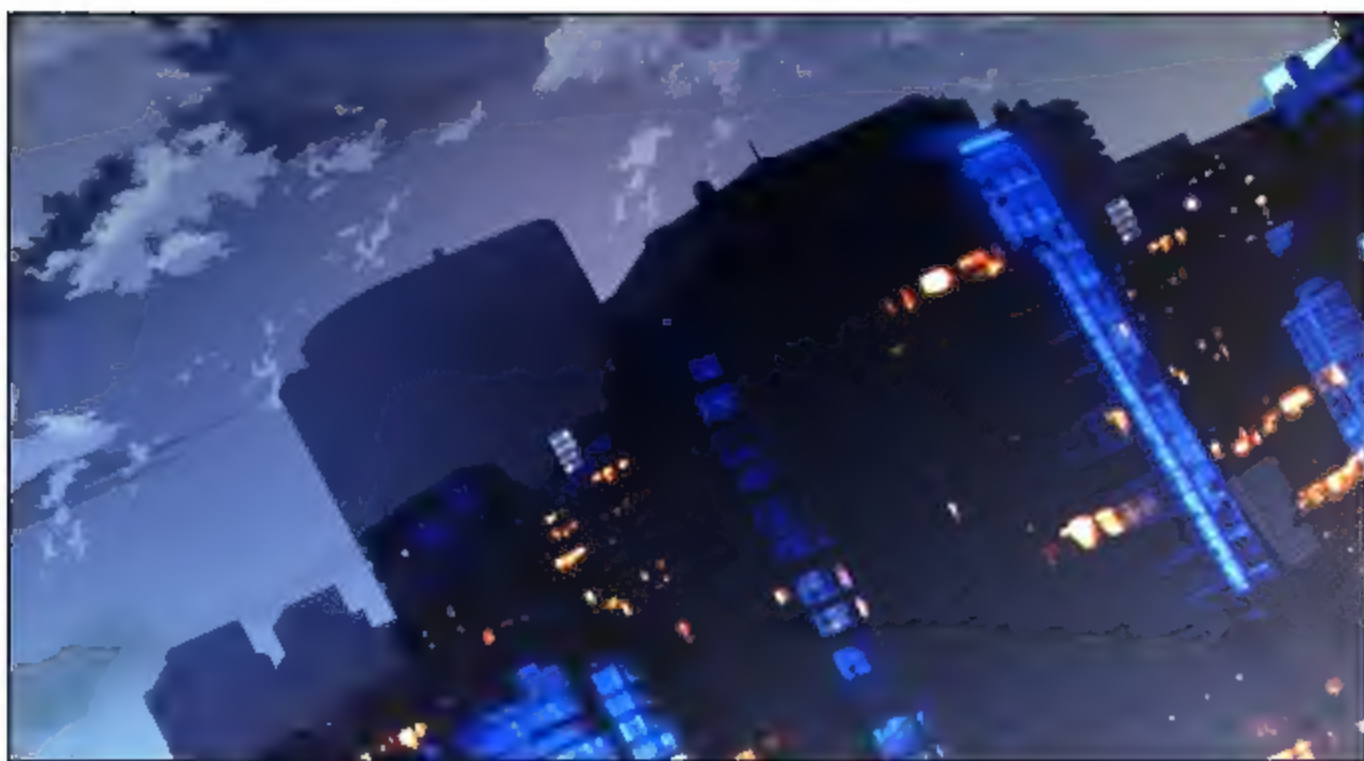


NOBLESSE

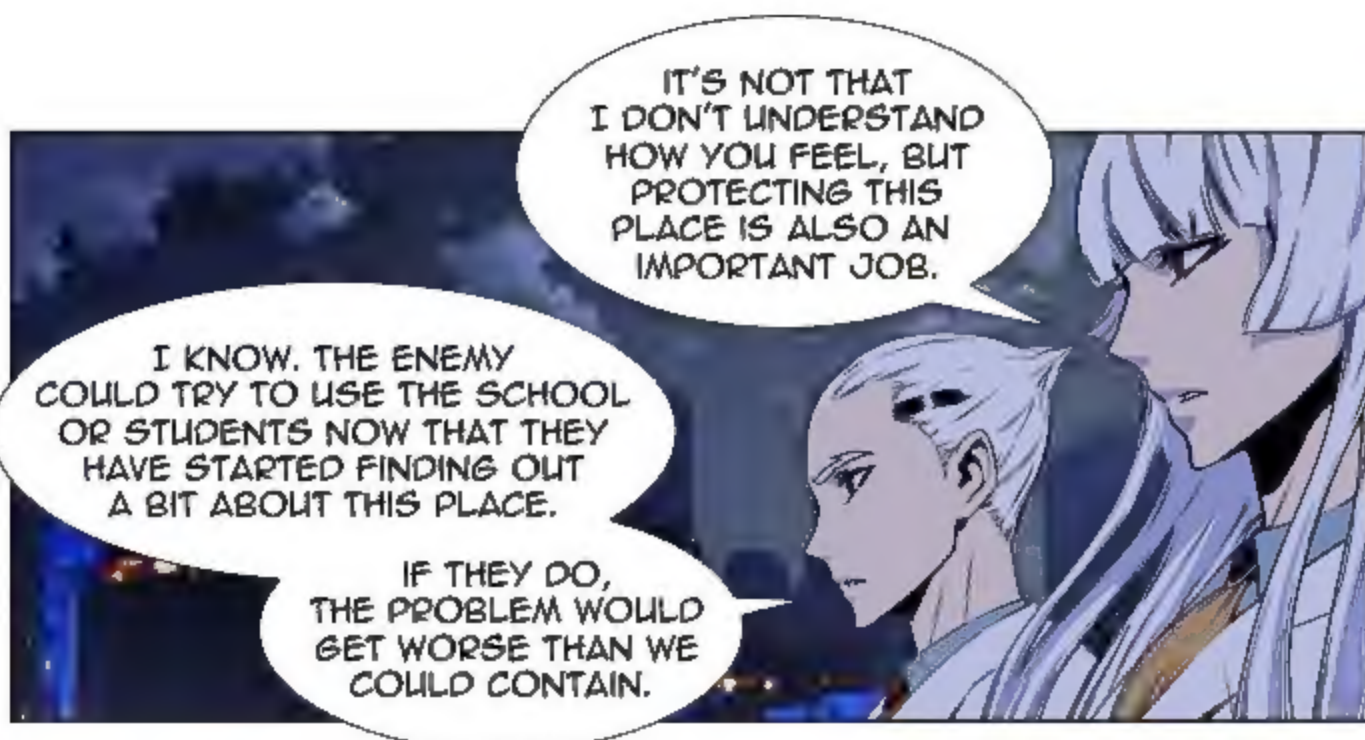
JEHO SON
KWANGSU LEE





THIS IS SO
UPSETTING.

NOT BEING ABLE
TO GO WITH HIM AND
HAVING TO WAIT
HERE...

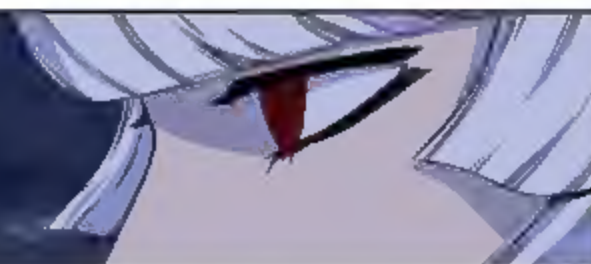


IT'S NOT THAT
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
HOW YOU FEEL, BUT
PROTECTING THIS
PLACE IS ALSO AN
IMPORTANT JOB.

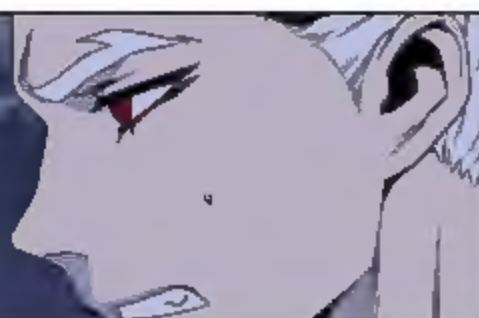
I KNOW. THE ENEMY
COULD TRY TO USE THE SCHOOL
OR STUDENTS NOW THAT THEY
HAVE STARTED FINDING OUT
A BIT ABOUT THIS PLACE.

IF THEY DO,
THE PROBLEM WOULD
GET WORSE THAN WE
COULD CONTAIN.

YEAH. THIS PLACE HAS
TO BE SAFE IN ORDER FOR
THEM TO HAVE PEACE OF
MIND AND FOCUS ON
THEIR BATTLE.



ACCORDING TO TAO,
IT LOOKS LIKE M-21
IS BEING USED BY
THE WEREWOLVES AS
A TEST SUBJECT.



THAT'S THE ONLY
THING I CAN THINK OF
THAT'S WORSE THAN
DEATH FOR HIM...

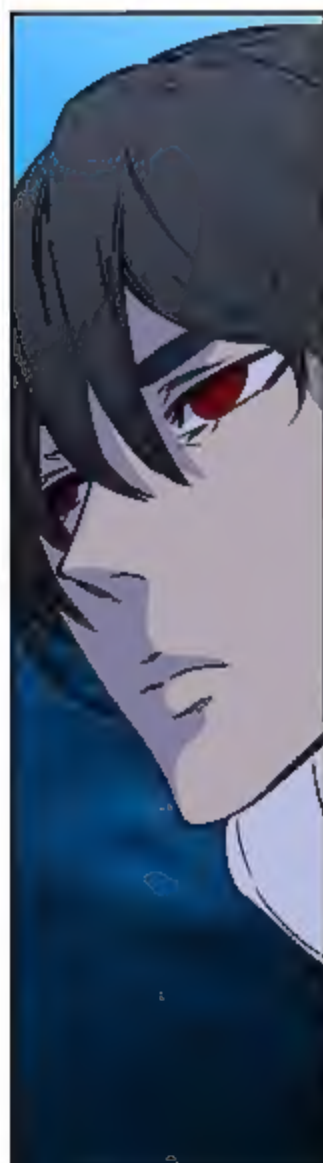
XXXXXX



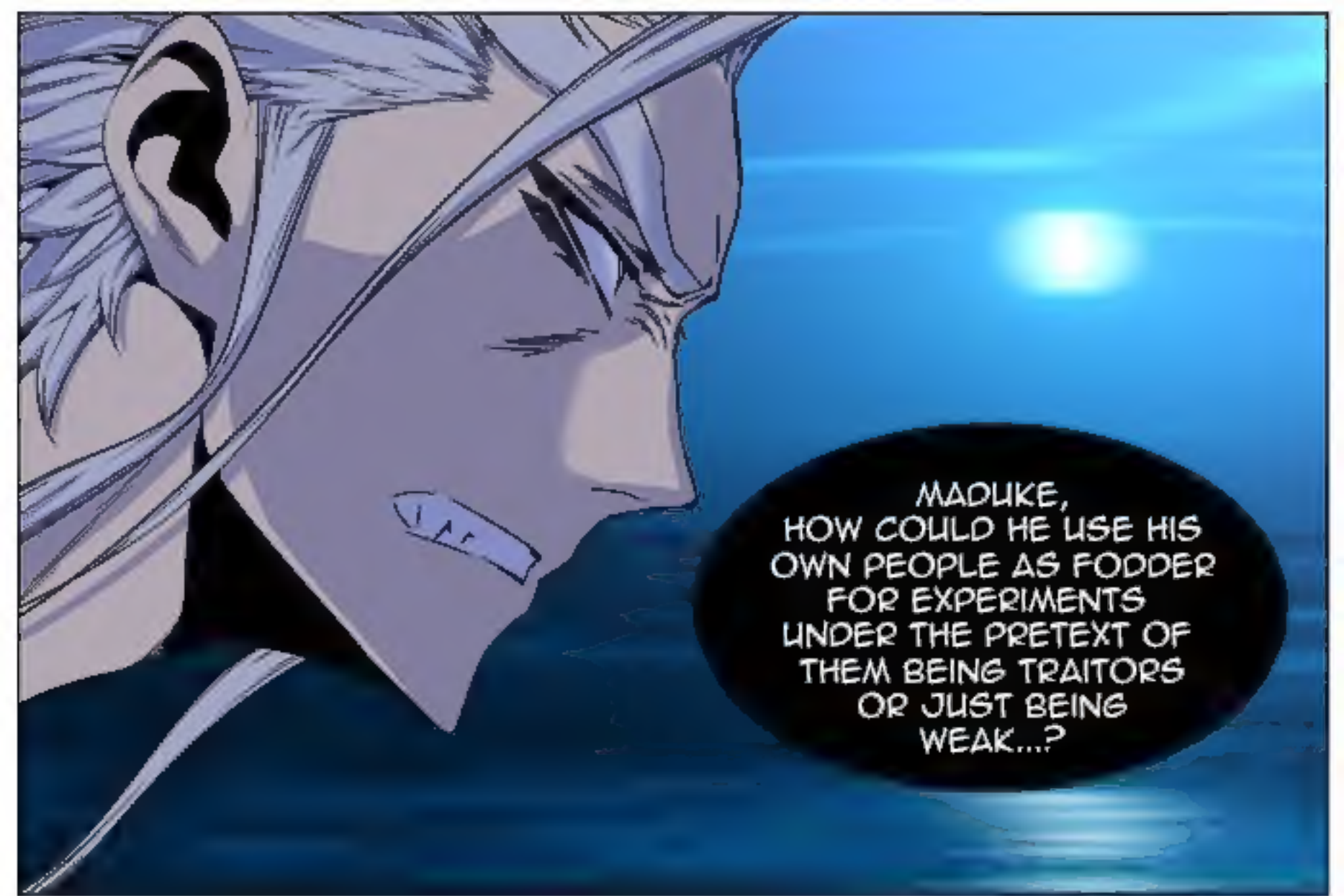
LEAP





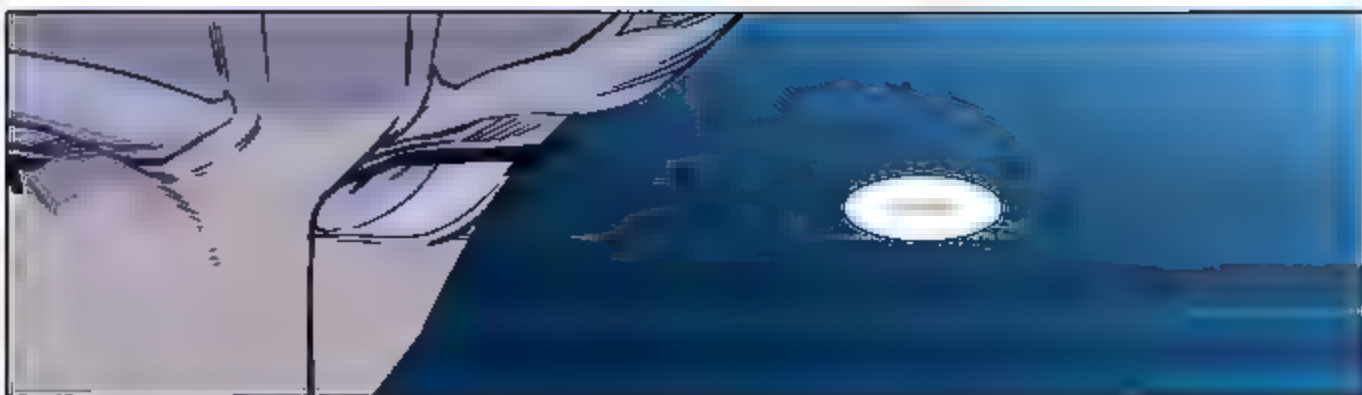




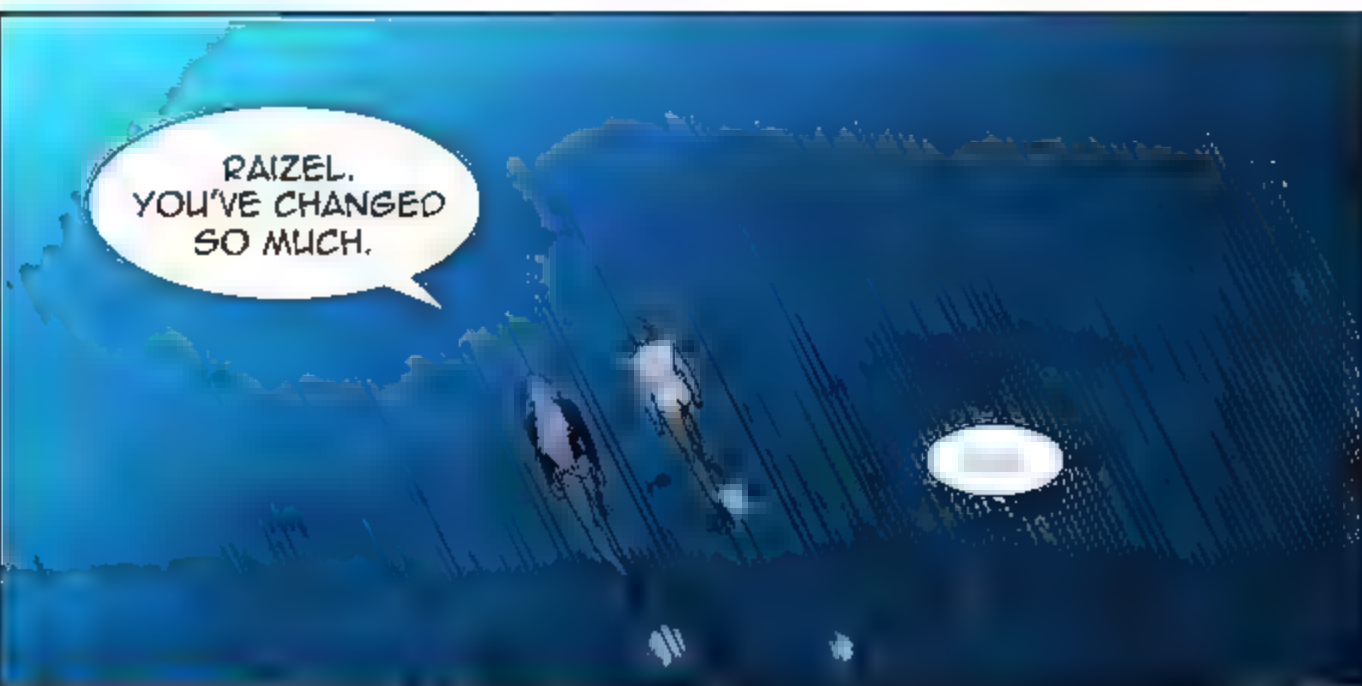


MADUKE,
HOW COULD HE USE HIS
OWN PEOPLE AS FODDER
FOR EXPERIMENTS
UNDER THE PRETEXT OF
THEM BEING TRAITORS
OR JUST BEING
WEAK....?





RAIZEL.
YOU'VE CHANGED
SO MUCH.



I WISH YOU
WERE LIKE THIS
BEFORE..



RUMBLE...





HOW ARE
THE EXPERIMENTS
GOING?

I THINK
I WILL BE ABLE TO
OBTAIN MORE DATA
THAN I EXPECTED

WHAT ABOUT
THE THING THAT
I SPECIFICALLY
MENTIONED?

THAT'S ALSO
GOING SMOOTHLY
WITHOUT ANY
PROBLEMS.

ALL OF THE OTHER
THINGS ARE DONE.
THE DURATION IS
A PROBLEM, BUT I'LL
BE ABLE TO RESOLVE
THAT SOON TOO.



RUMBLE...

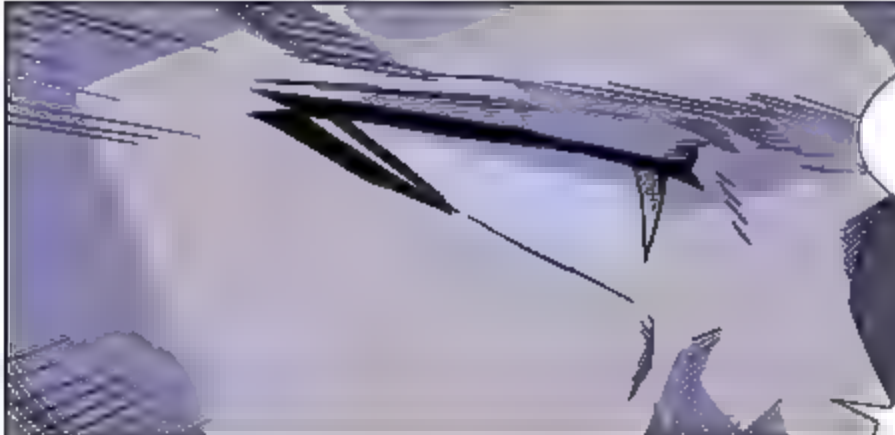
YOU'RE SURE THAT
WHAT YOU'RE CREATING WILL
BE ABLE TO OVERPOWER
MUZAKA, RIGHT?



OF COURSE.
I'VE BEEN STUDYING
HIM FOR CENTURIES.

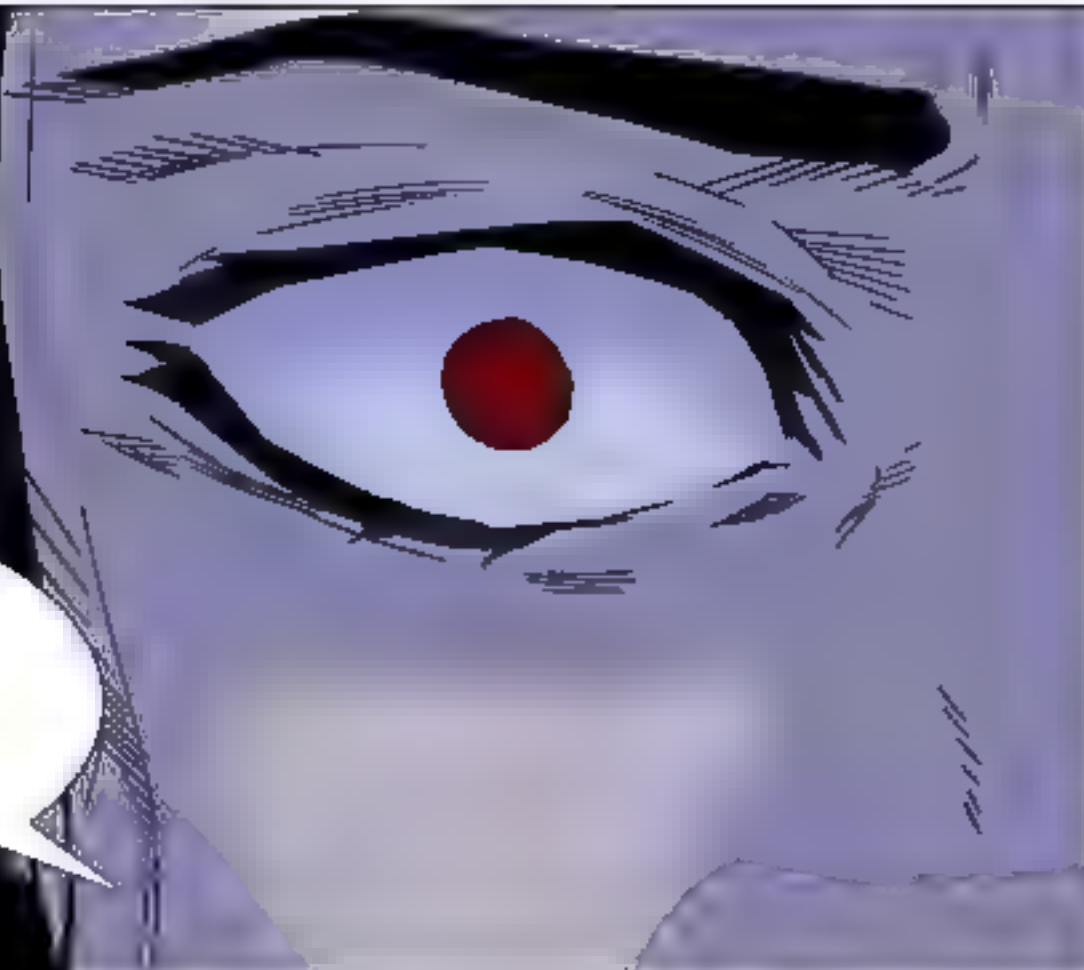
THROUGH MANY
EXPERIMENTS, I HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO FIGURE OUT ALL KINDS
OF DETAILS, LIKE HIS PHYSICAL
STRENGTH AND CHARACTERISTICS,
EVEN HIS WEAKNESSES

I PROBABLY KNOW
MORE ABOUT MUZAKA
THAN HE KNOWS
ABOUT HIMSELF.



FROM NOW ON,
STOP EVERYTHING
ELSE AND FOCUS ON
FINISHING THAT.

I WANT RESULTS
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

A close-up of a character's face, focusing on a single eye that is a solid, vibrant red. The eye is surrounded by dark, heavily lined eyelids and thick, dark eyebrows. The skin is a pale, ashy grey. The background is dark and indistinct.

WHAT?
BUT IF I PRODUCE
RESULTS NOW,
THEY WILL PROBABLY
ONLY RUN FOR A DAY
BEFORE STOPPING...



MUZAKA WILL
COME HERE
SOON.

IT DOESN'T MATTER
HOW LONG IT RUNS FOR,
AS LONG AS IT CAN FACE
HIM WHEN HE GETS
HERE.





I'LL HAVE TO JUST
MAKE A QUICK DISPOSABLE
VERSION, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE
THAT WILL BE ENOUGH
FOR NOW.

BUT WILL
THAT REALLY
BE OKAY?

I'LL HAVE TO CONSUME
ALL OF THE TEST SUBJECTS
IN ORDER TO GET
THE CALCULATED
OUTPUT...

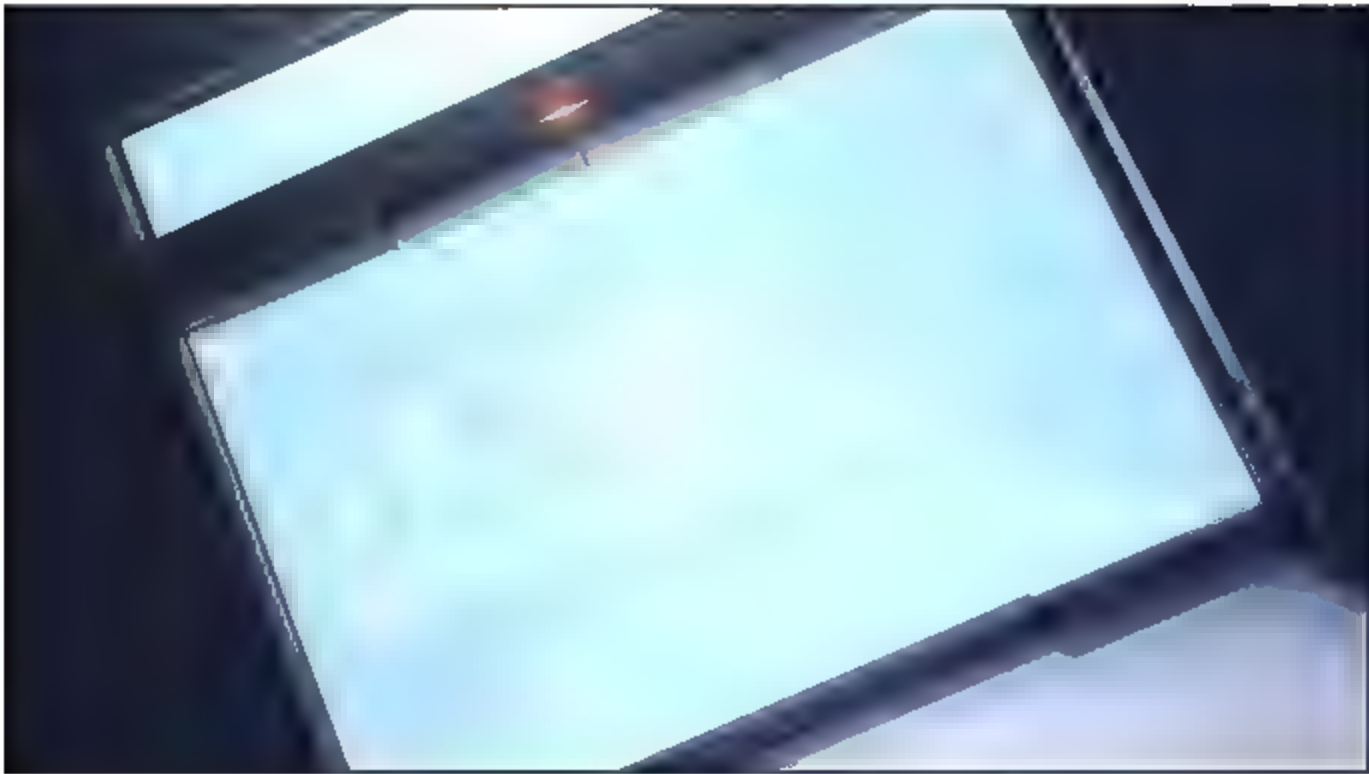


IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF YOU USE
THEM ALL.

RATHER,
I'LL BRING YOU
MORE.



AND
ONCE THIS IS FINISHED,
I'LL GIVE YOU EVEN
MORE TEST SUBJECTS
THAN YOU HAD THIS TIME AND
LET YOU DO WHATEVER
EXPERIMENTS YOU WANT.





HUFF..

HUFF



MY BODY
IS A WRECK.

IT'S SO BADLY RUINED
THAT I ALMOST CAN'T
HEAL MYSELF WITH MY OWN
REGENERATION.

UGH.



HEY, HUMAN.
ARE YOU ALIVE?



..UNFORTUNATELY,
YES.

SSK



YOU'RE HOLDING
OUT BETTER THAN
I EXPECTED.

HUMAN, WHY ARE
YOU ENDURING SUCH
TERRIBLE PAIN?

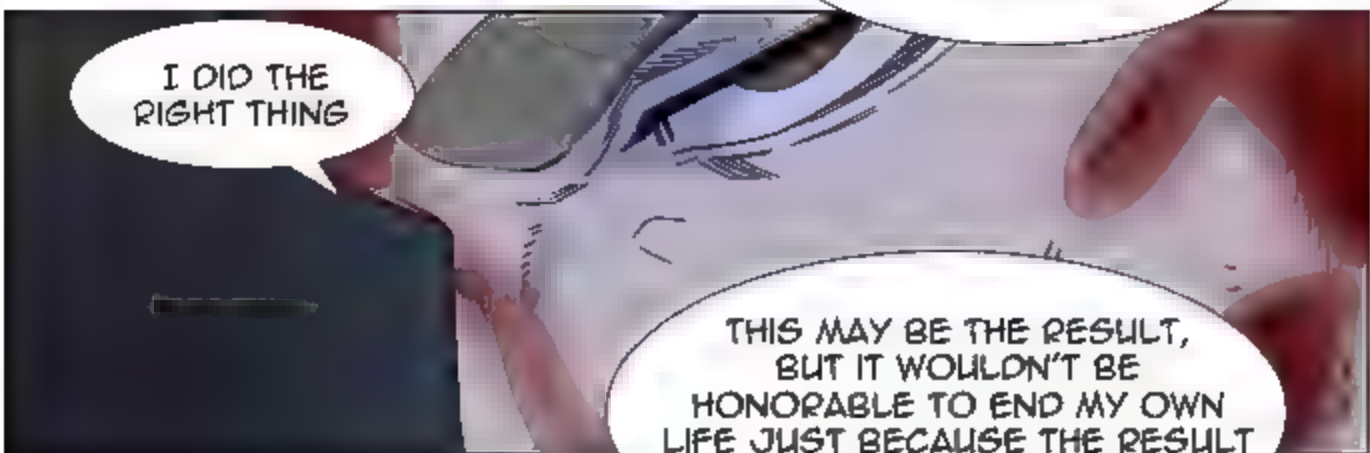


AH...
I MADE A PROMISE
TO SOMEONE, PLUS
I DON'T WANT TO
DISAPPOINT MY CURRENT
COMPANIONS.



WHAT ABOUT YOU?
FROM WHAT YOU SAID,
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU
VALUE THE HONOR
AS A WARRIOR...

DON'T YOU THINK
IT'S DISGRACEFUL TO
GO THROUGH SOMETHING
LIKE THIS?

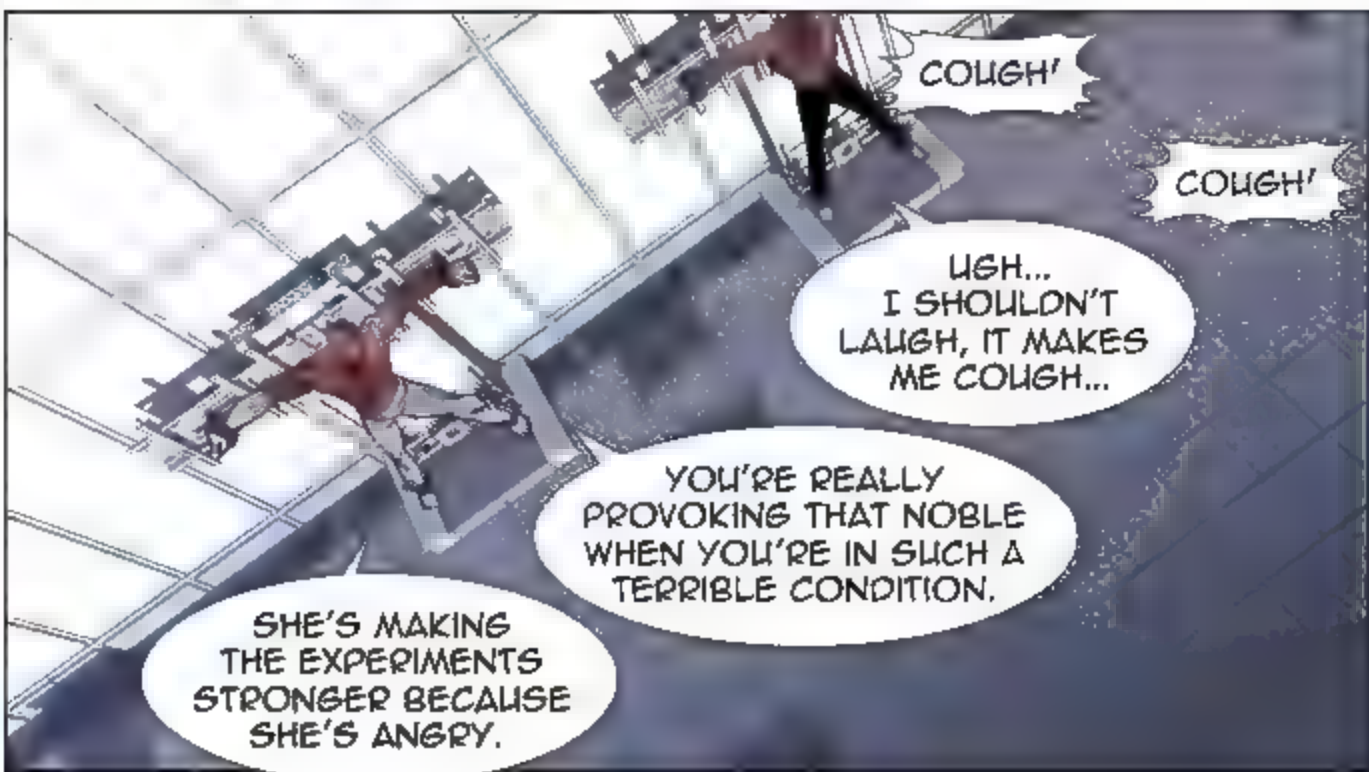


I DID THE
RIGHT THING

THIS MAY BE THE RESULT,
BUT IT WOULDN'T BE
HONORABLE TO END MY OWN
LIFE JUST BECAUSE THE RESULT
OF DOING THE RIGHT THING
IS PAINFUL.



HAH... SO WE'VE
BOTH GOT OUR
REASONS.



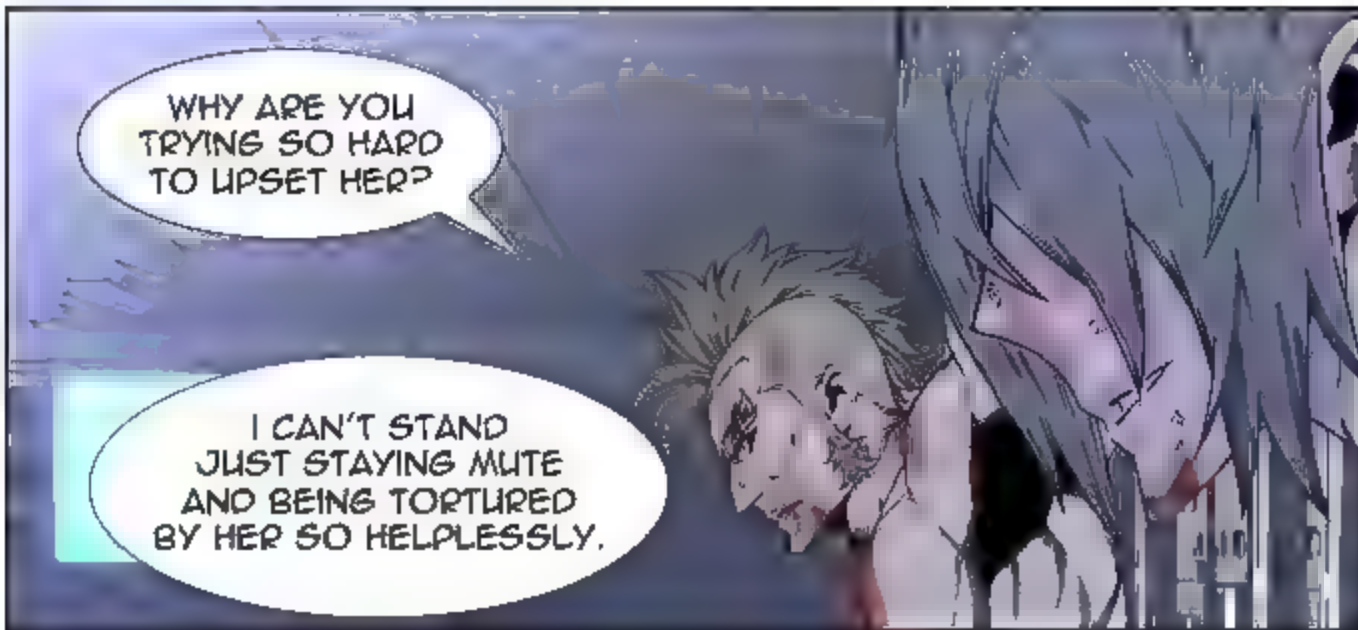
COUGH'

COUGH'

UGH...
I SHOULDN'T
LAUGH, IT MAKES
ME COUGH...

YOU'RE REALLY
PROVOKING THAT NOBLE
WHEN YOU'RE IN SUCH A
TERRIBLE CONDITION.

SHE'S MAKING
THE EXPERIMENTS
STRONGER BECAUSE
SHE'S ANGRY.



WHY ARE YOU
TRYING SO HARD
TO UPSET HER?

I CAN'T STAND
JUST STAYING MUTE
AND BEING TORTURED
BY HER SO HELPLESSLY.



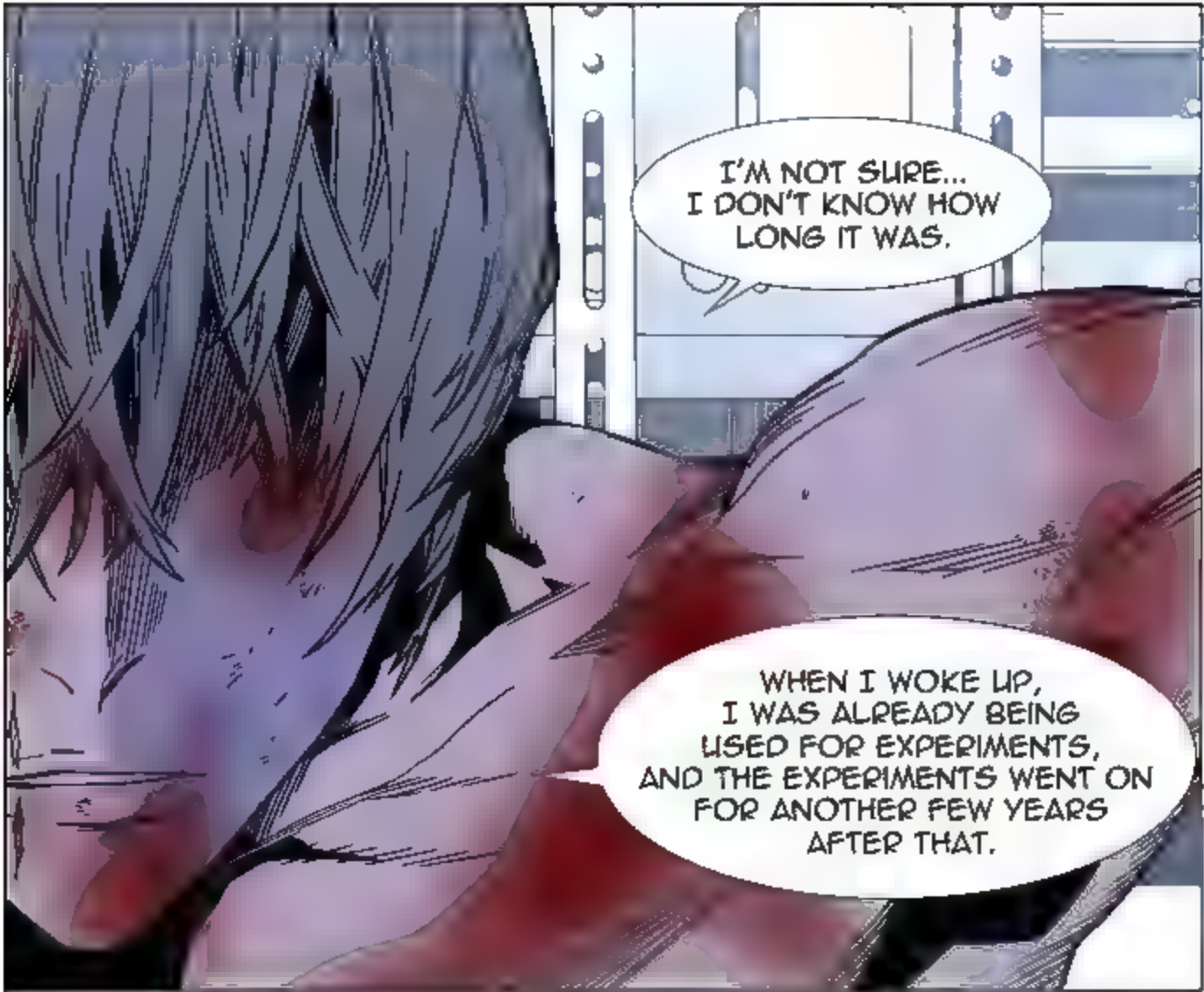
AH... I DIDN'T
WANT TO BECOME
A TEST SUBJECT
LIKE THIS AGAIN.



TRUE ..
THIS WOULDN'T BE
YOUR FIRST TIME.

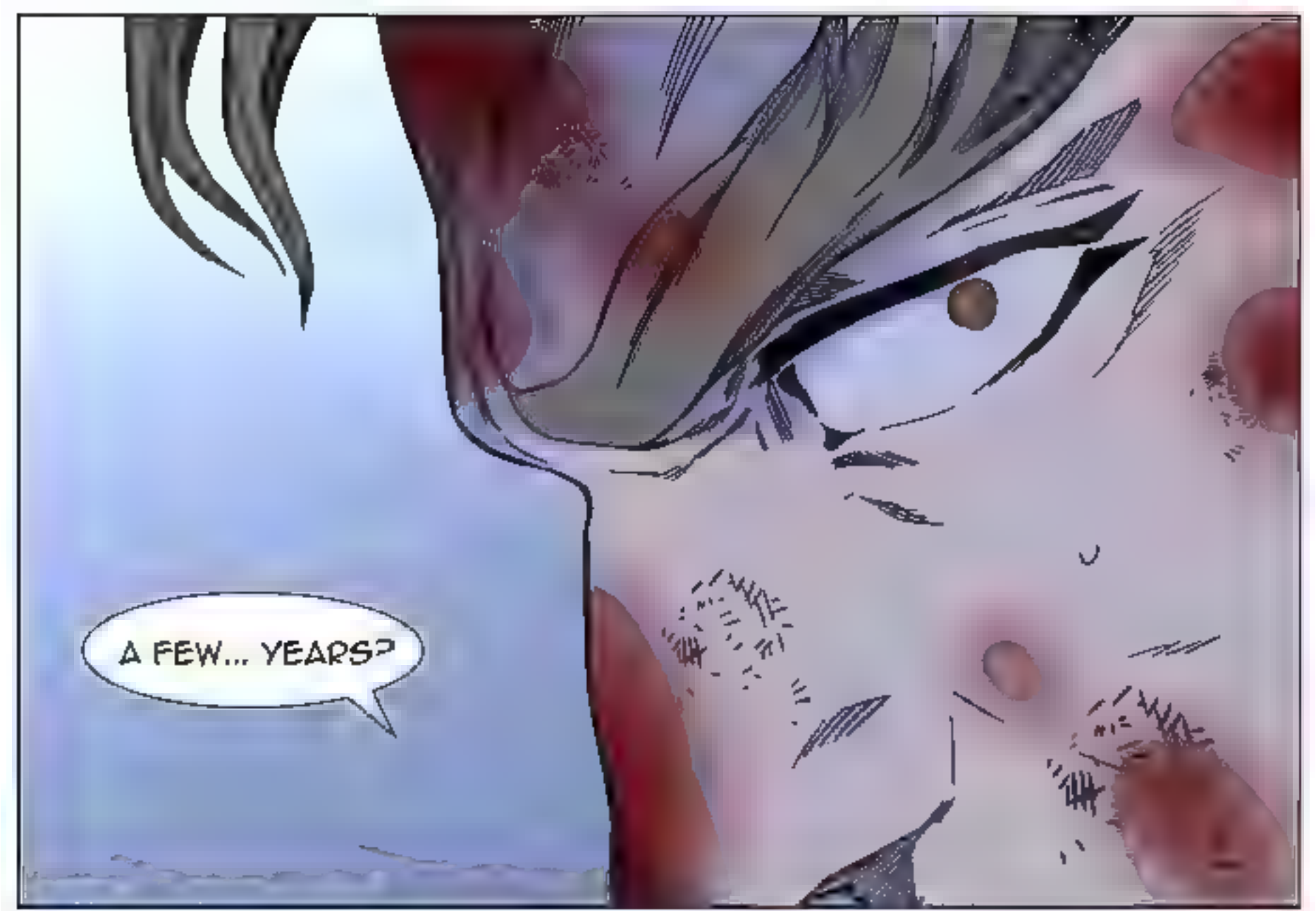
IT MUST HAVE TAKEN
A LOT MORE THAN JUST ONE
OR TWO EXPERIMENTS FOR
A HUMAN TO GET THE
POWER LIKE YOURS.

HOW MUCH OF
THIS CRAP DID YOU
HAVE TO PUT UP
WITH?



I'M NOT SURE...
I DON'T KNOW HOW
LONG IT WAS.

WHEN I WOKE UP,
I WAS ALREADY BEING
USED FOR EXPERIMENTS,
AND THE EXPERIMENTS WENT ON
FOR ANOTHER FEW YEARS
AFTER THAT.



A FEW... YEARS?

YEAH, AND I THINK YOU'VE
GOT THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT ME,
BUT I WASN'T EVEN USED FOR
THE FINAL STAGE FOR
PRACTICING THIS POWER.

THEY MAY HAVE TRIED
TO BE CAREFUL WITH THOSE
FOR THE FINAL STAGE,
BUT I WAS JUST ONE OF
COUNTLESS TEST SUBJECTS
THROWN AWAY FOR THE SAKE
OF OBTAINING DATA.

WHAT? THEN

SINCE THEY JUST HAD TO
OBTAIN DATA THAT BOTH ME AND
ALL OF MY COMPANIONS
NEEDED, THEY ALWAYS RAN
THE EXPERIMENTS PAST THE LIMITS,
WHETHER WE DIED OR NOT.

SINCE THEY COULD ALWAYS
GET MORE TEST SUBJECTS
IF SOMEONE DIED DURING
THE PROCESS.

LIKE A LAB RAT



WHEN IT WAS DOWN TO
JUST ME AND A SINGLE
COMPANION, IT WAS DECIDED THAT
WE WOULD BE DISCARDED ALONG
WITH THE PROJECT, BUT THEY LET US
LIVE SO THAT WE COULD BE
RECYCLED TO BE WORKING
AS LOW-CLASS AGENTS.

THEN
I MET MY CURRENT
COMPANIONS, AND I
ACQUIRED THIS POWER
OVER THE TIME.

SO DID
YOUR COMPANION
WHO SURVIVED WITH YOU
BEFORE ALSO GET THIS
KIND OF POWER?



NO. HE DIED.

YOU GUYS MAY THINK
THIS POWER IS GREAT,
BUT I CAN'T STAND IT.

SINCE IT FEELS
LIKE I HAVE KILLED
MY COMPANIONS
IN EXCHANGE FOR
THIS POWER.

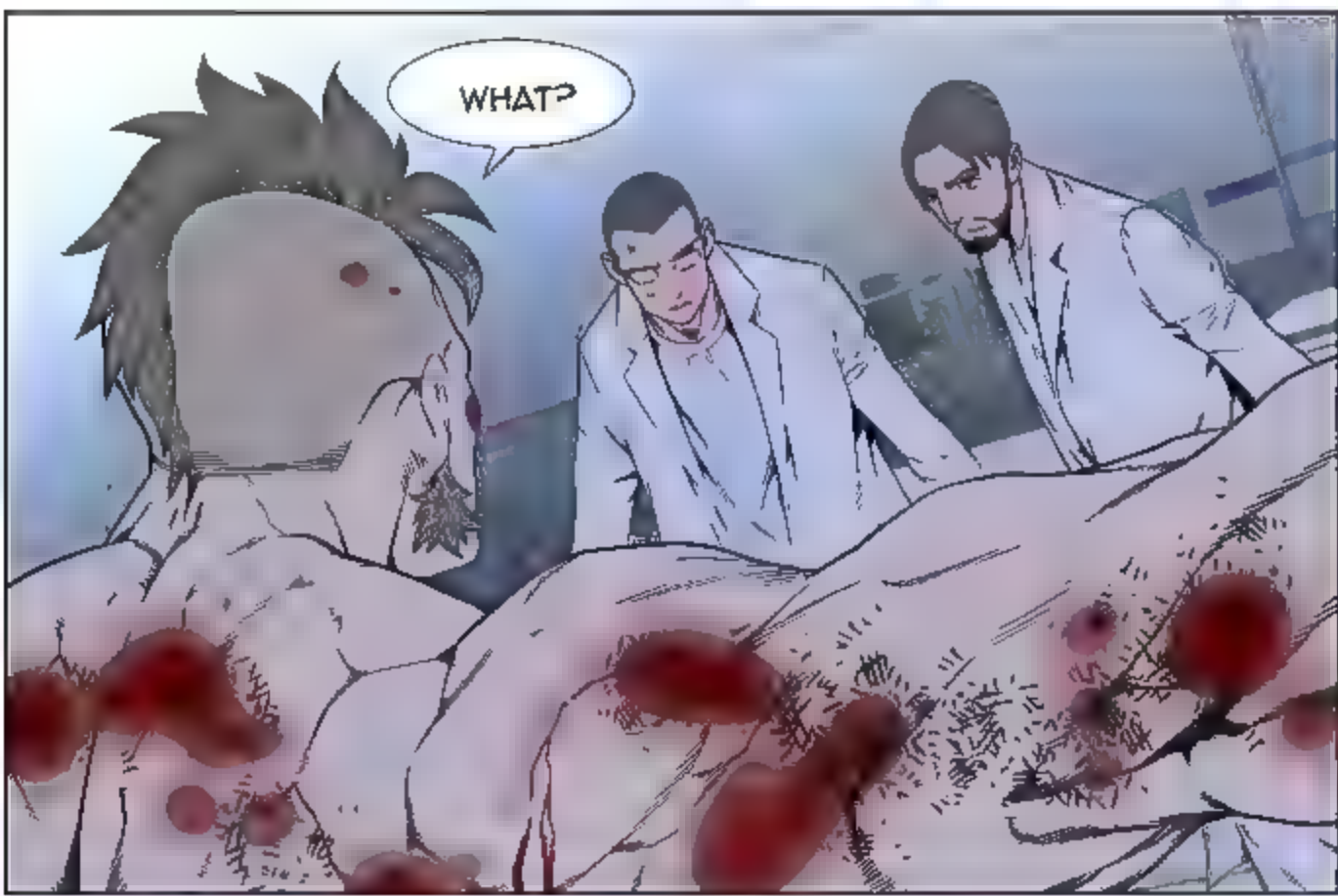


STILL, IT'S TRUE THAT
I NEED THIS POWER
RIGHT NOW, WHICH
MAKES ME MAD.

RE: 774



KENTAS
WAKE UP





WE'RE GOING TO LET
YOU GO, SO RUN AS
QUICKLY AS YOU CAN.

THERE'S NOT
MUCH TIME.

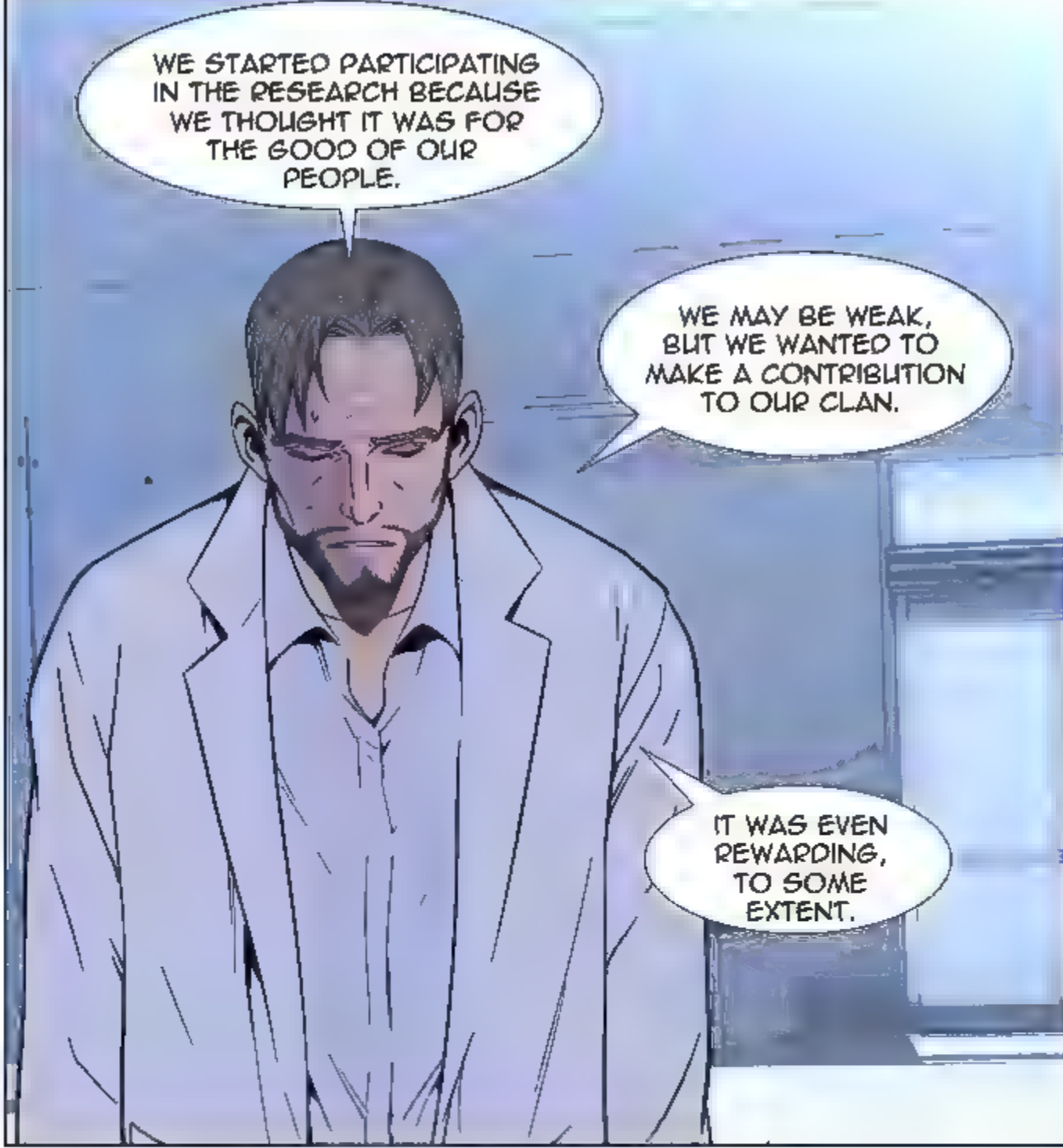


WHAT ARE
YOU UP TO?

AREN'T YOU
THE RESEARCHERS
WHO WERE DOING
EXPERIMENTS
HERE?

WHY WOULD YOU
LET ME ESCAPE?

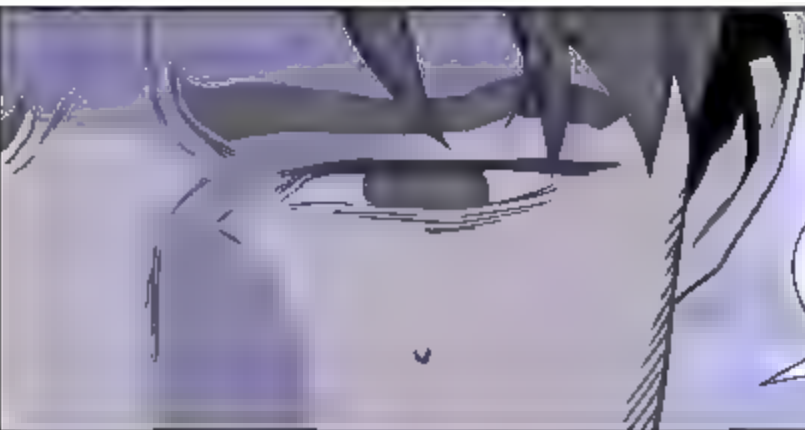


A man with dark hair and a goatee, wearing a white lab coat over a light blue button-down shirt, is shown from the chest up. He has a somber expression and is looking down. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a window on the right.

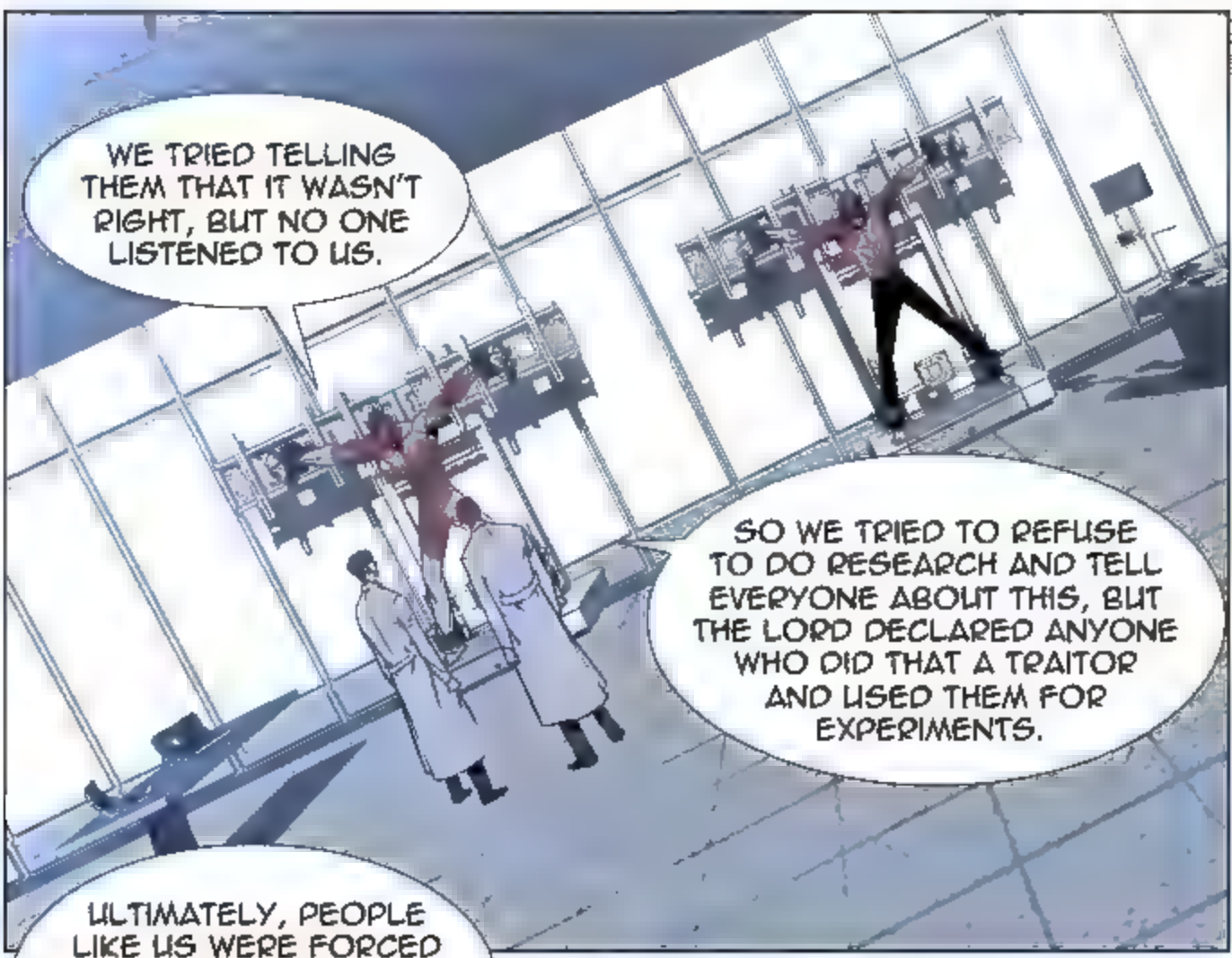
WE STARTED PARTICIPATING
IN THE RESEARCH BECAUSE
WE THOUGHT IT WAS FOR
THE GOOD OF OUR
PEOPLE.

WE MAY BE WEAK,
BUT WE WANTED TO
MAKE A CONTRIBUTION
TO OUR CLAN.

IT WAS EVEN
REWARDING,
TO SOME
EXTENT.

A close-up shot of the same man's face, looking down with a somber expression. His eyes are closed or looking down, and his mouth is slightly open.

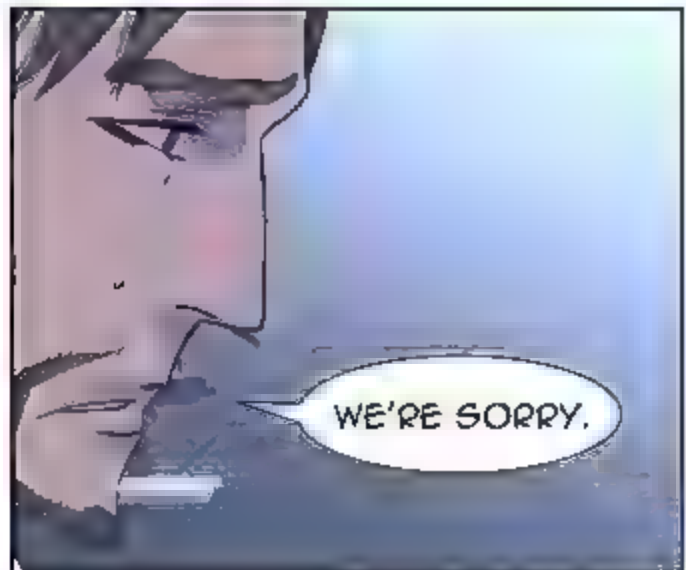
BUT OVER TIME,
WE FOUND OUT THAT
WE WERE USING OUR
OWN PEOPLE FOR
EXPERIMENTS.



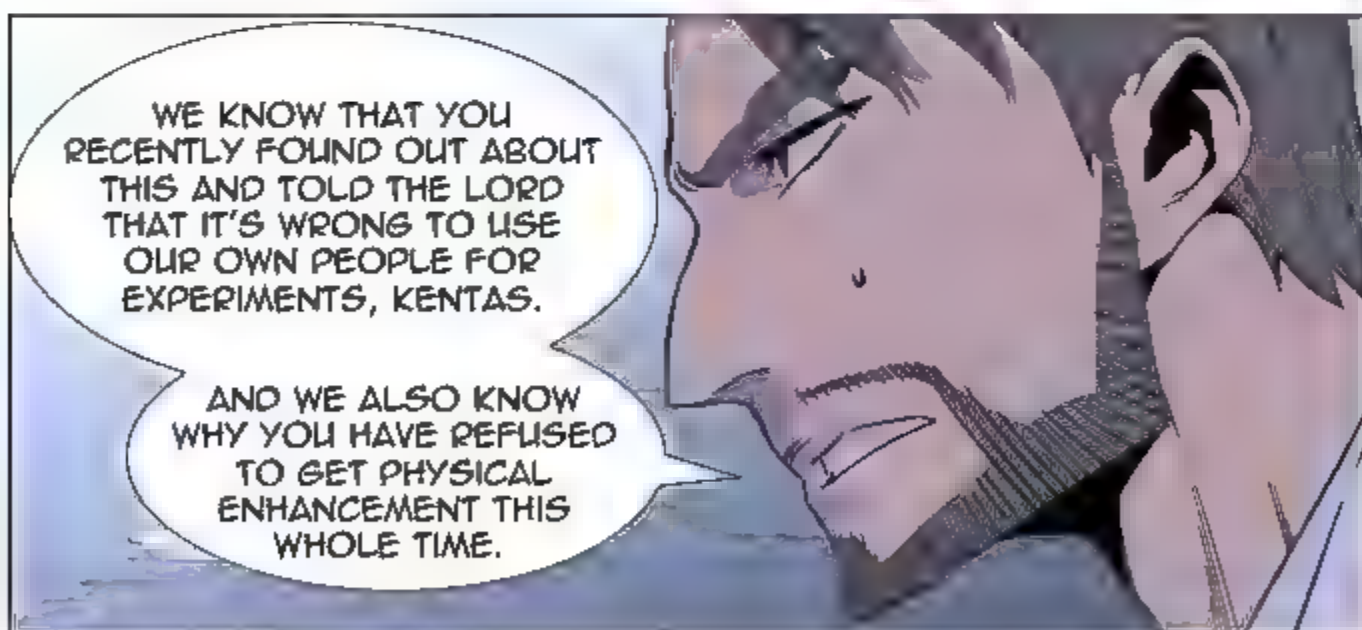
WE TRIED TELLING
THEM THAT IT WASN'T
RIGHT, BUT NO ONE
LISTENED TO US.

SO WE TRIED TO REFUSE
TO DO RESEARCH AND TELL
EVERYONE ABOUT THIS, BUT
THE LORD DECLARED ANYONE
WHO DID THAT A TRAITOR
AND USED THEM FOR
EXPERIMENTS.

ULTIMATELY, PEOPLE
LIKE US WERE FORCED
TO KEEP OUR MOUTHS
SHUT AND FOLLOW
ORDERS OUT OF
FEAR.



WE'RE SORRY.

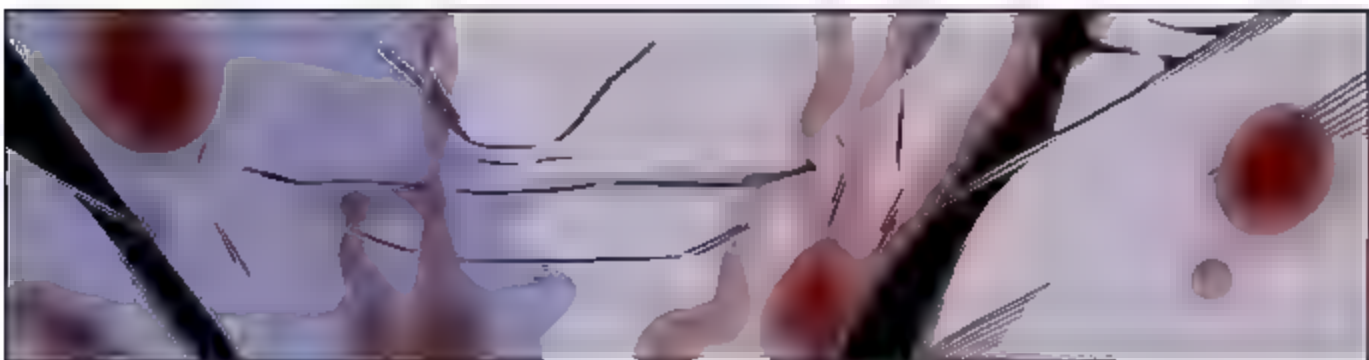


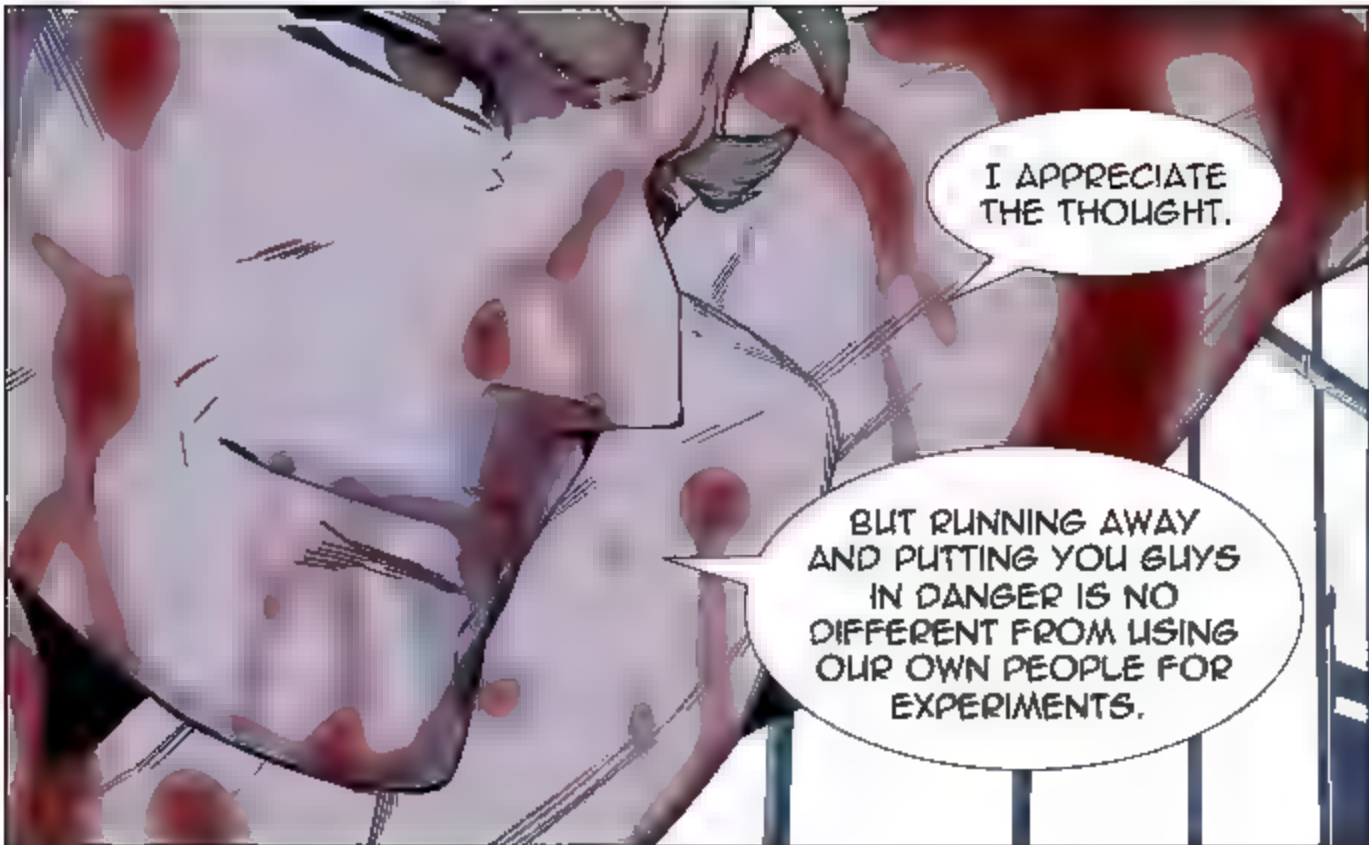


THERE'S NO WAY
THAT SOMEONE WHO
HAS DEFENDED HIS
PEOPLE'S HONOR UNTIL
THE VERY END WOULD
BE A TRAITOR.

~~~~~

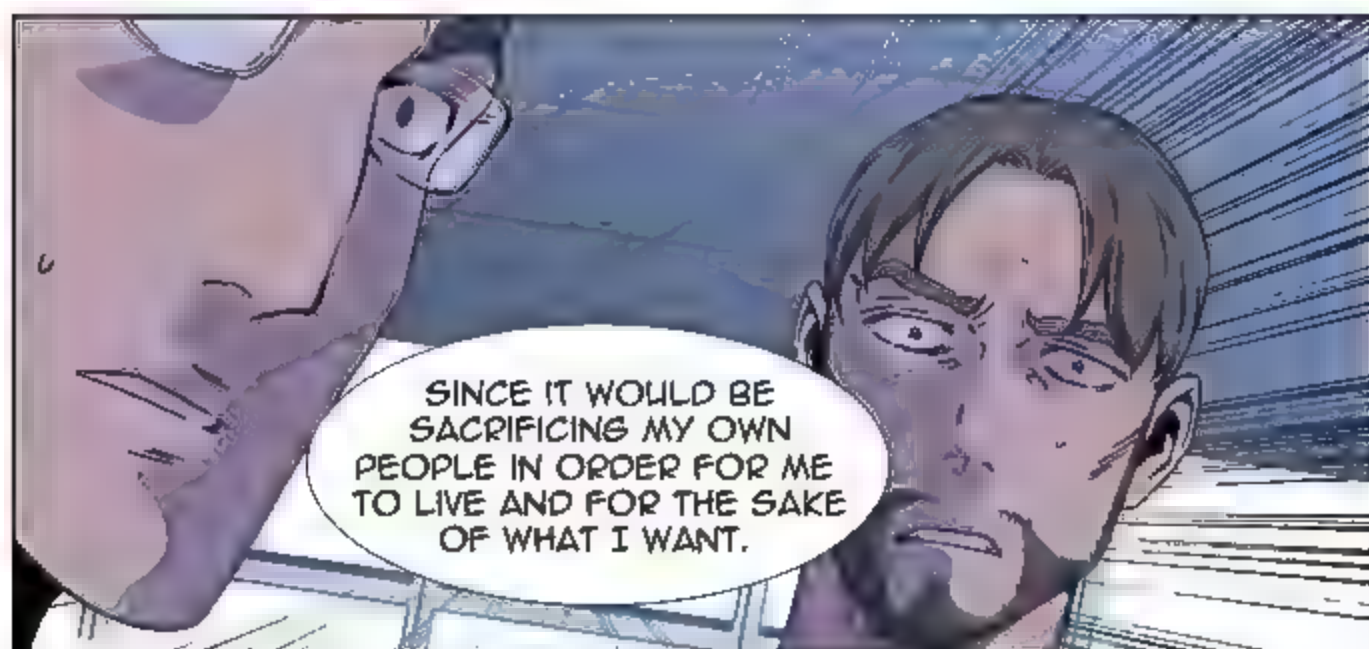
YOUR LIFE CAN'T  
END LIKE THIS,  
KENTAS.



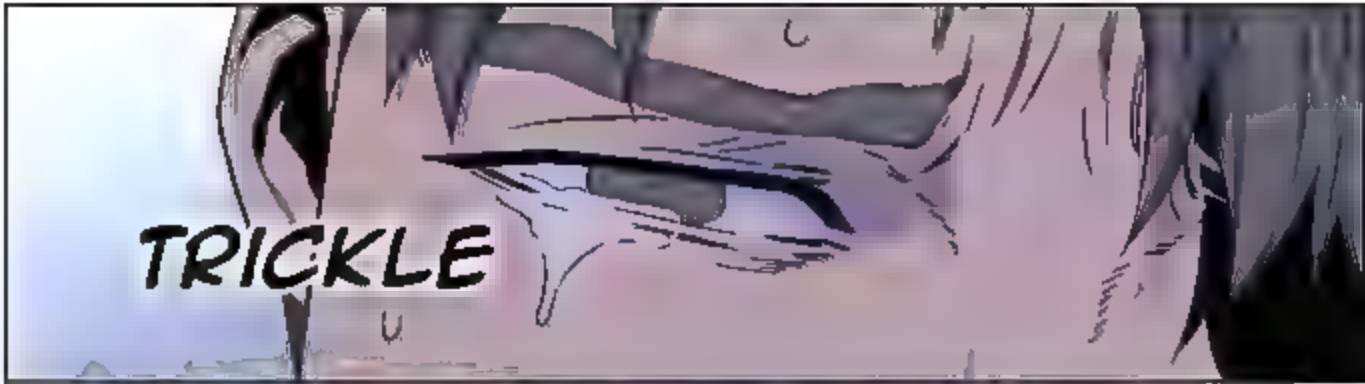


I APPRECIATE  
THE THOUGHT.

BUT RUNNING AWAY  
AND PUTTING YOU GUYS  
IN DANGER IS NO  
DIFFERENT FROM USING  
OUR OWN PEOPLE FOR  
EXPERIMENTS.



SINCE IT WOULD BE  
SACRIFICING MY OWN  
PEOPLE IN ORDER FOR ME  
TO LIVE AND FOR THE SAKE  
OF WHAT I WANT.



**TRICKLE**



THANK YOU.

JUST HEARING YOU SAY  
SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO  
GUYS LIKE US... IT MEANS  
SO MUCH TO US.

TREMBLE

STEP

STEP





A close-up, high-contrast illustration of a man's face. He has a wide-eyed, intense expression. His face is covered in several large, dark red blood splatters, particularly around the eyes and mouth. The background is dark and indistinct.

WHY...?

A full-page illustration showing two men in light-colored suits standing on a rooftop. The man in the foreground is looking towards the right, while the man in the background is looking down. The rooftop has some equipment and a railing. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

WE'VE ALREADY  
GONE TOO FAR.

THERE'S  
NO TURNING  
BACK NOW.



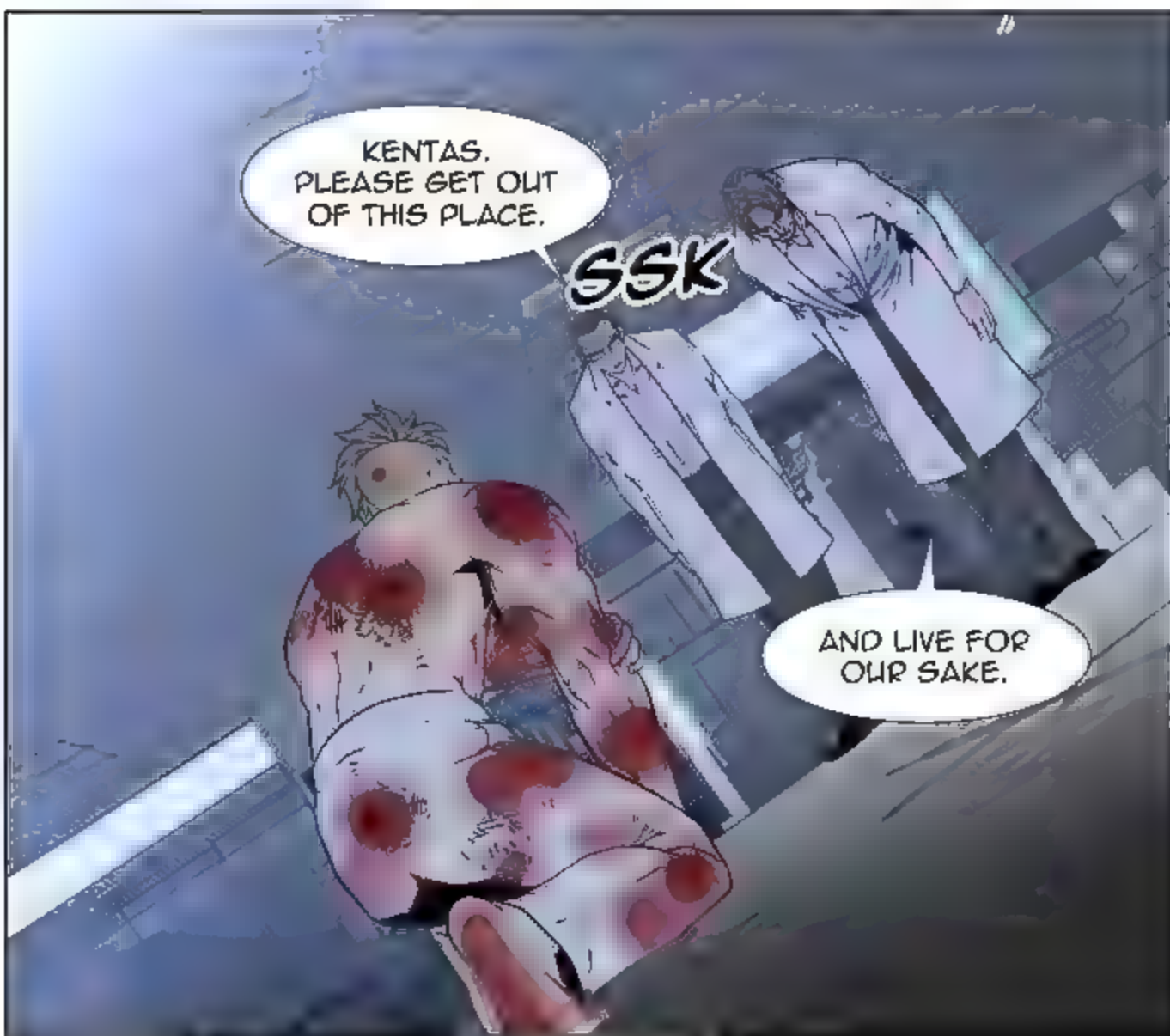
WHAT?

EVEN IF YOU DON'T  
RUN AWAY, WE'VE ALREADY  
DONE SOMETHING WE WEREN'T  
SUPPOSED TO, AND THE RESULT  
WILL BE THE SAME ONCE  
THEY FIND OUT.

KENTAS.  
PLEASE GET OUT  
OF THIS PLACE.

**SSK**

AND LIVE FOR  
OUR SAKE.

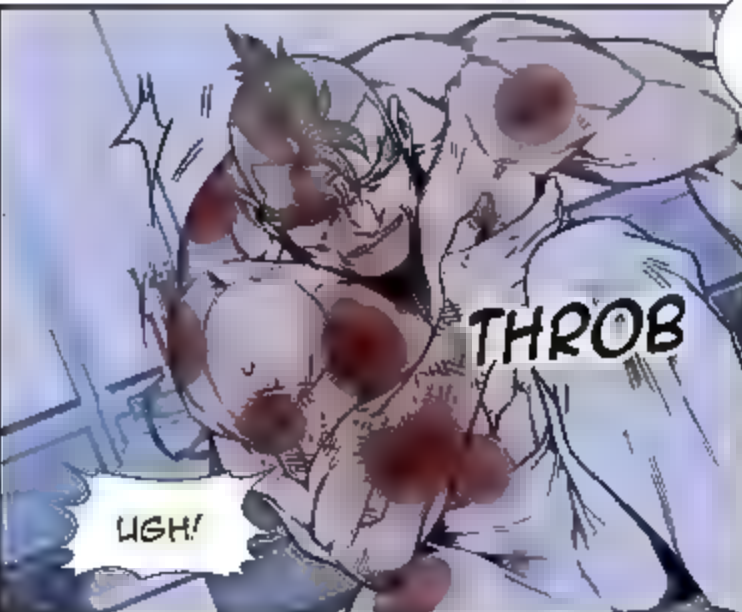




WAIT! IF I LEAVE  
LIKE THIS, THEN  
YOU GUYS WILL....!

STEP

STEP



ARE YOU JUST GOING  
TO WASTE THE OPPORTUNITY  
THAT THOSE GUYS JUST  
SAVE YOU AT THEIR  
OWN SACRIFICE?

THROB

UGH!



SSK



YOU ..

I'M SORRY,  
BUT WHATEVER YOU  
DECIDE, I HAVE TO GET  
OUT OF HERE.

I MADE A PROMISE  
TO MY COMPANIONS  
WITH WHO I SPENT  
SUCH A LONG TIME AS  
A TEST SUBJECT.



WE SAID THAT IF ANY  
OF US SURVIVES ALL  
OF THOSE TERRIBLE  
EXPERIMENTS...

THAT PERSON  
ABSOLUTELY HAS  
TO GO ON LIVING



**CLENCH**



A close-up of a character's face, showing a wide, toothy grin. The character has dark, spiky hair and is wearing a dark, textured garment. A speech bubble is positioned in the lower-left area of the frame.

LOOK, HUMAN.  
MY NAME IS KENTAS.  
REMEMBER THAT.

A close-up of the same character's face, showing a wide, toothy grin. The character has dark, spiky hair and is wearing a dark, textured garment. A speech bubble is positioned in the lower-right area of the frame.

AH... YOU CAN  
CALL ME M-21.

A comic book panel showing two silhouetted figures running through a dark, industrial corridor. A bright light source is visible at the end of the corridor, creating a strong backlight effect. The figures are running towards the light. The corridor has a grid-like ceiling and walls.

WELL THEN,  
M-21. I'LL LEAD  
THE WAY.

GO RIGHT  
AHEAD.

**STEP**

**STEP**



LINE Webtoon